

MEASURE J  
"REIMAGINE LA"



# 2021 SPENDING

## RECOMMENDATIONS PROCESS

# Economic Opportunities & Sustainability Meeting #2

# About Measure J

LA County Voters approved  
Measure J in the November 2020  
Election.



Measure J mandates at  
least **10%** of the  
County's locally generated  
unrestricted funding will  
address impact of racial  
injustice.

**How will Measure J address the impact  
of systemic racism and incarceration?**

By investing those funds in  
community recommended  
programs such as:

- youth development
- job training
- mental health services
- small business development
- supportive housing services
- and other alternatives to incarceration.



A vibrant landscape photograph featuring a wide river with white-capped rapids in the foreground. A brilliant rainbow arches across the sky, its base resting on the distant riverbank. The river is bordered by steep, densely forested hillsides. The sky is a clear, deep blue with a few wispy clouds near the horizon.

# Breathe



A background image showing the silhouettes of numerous palm trees against a vibrant sunset sky. The sky transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright orange near the horizon where the sun is setting. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of people and structures, including a lifeguard stand, are visible along the beach.

# **Acknowledgement of Local Native Peoples**

## **Tongva/Kizh/Gabrieleño, Tataviam & Chumash**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF WHAT'S COME BEFORE

*Multi-decade efforts to address mass incarceration, systemic racism, equity and community healing*

**Measure J is one strategy  
of many **key efforts**  
for advancing **equity**,  
**decarceration**, **healing**,  
**repair** and **wellbeing** of  
our communities**

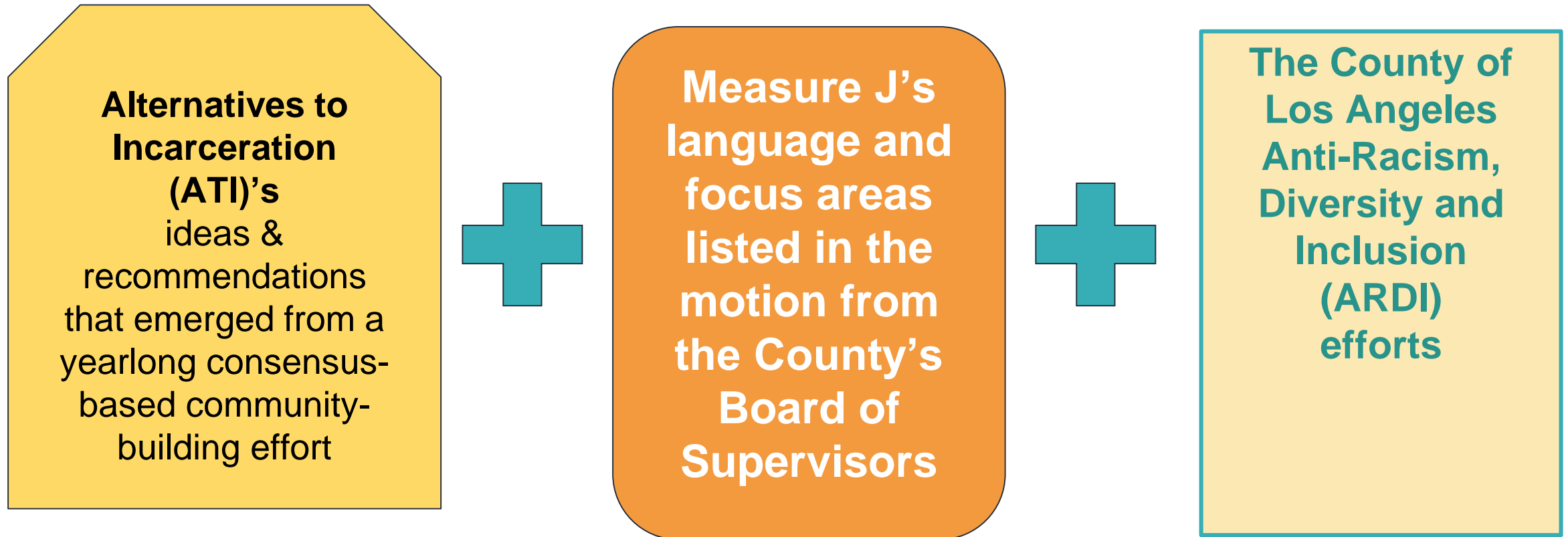
**2-Year Process to  
develop  
recommendations  
for Alternatives to  
Incarceration  
(ATI Process)**

**November 2020:  
Voters Approve  
Measure J to redirect  
funding to support  
community  
investments and  
alternatives to  
incarceration**

**Efforts to Close  
Men's Central  
Jail in LA County**



# This Measure J Funding Recommendations Process Will be Grounded in



# HEALING



# Meeting Goals

- Share data and stories for our focus area
- Set our “north star” (big goal) for our funding recommendations this year
- Begin to get clearer on the who (communities of focus), the what (the barriers we seek to remove), and the how (which programs and services to fund)
- Identify any more information we may need to make informed recommendations





An illustration on the left side of the slide shows a person with dark hair, wearing an orange sweater and teal pants, standing next to a large, light blue document. The person is holding a red pencil and pointing at the first item on the document, which is circled in red. The document has several horizontal lines representing text, with the first item numbered '1', the second '2', and the third '3'. The background features stylized green leaves and a teal circular shape.

# Agenda

1. Introduction and Grounding
2. Presentations
3. Question & Answer with Presenters
4. Breakout Group Discussion 1
5. Big Group Sharing
6. Breakout Group Discussion 2
7. Public Comment
8. Next Steps and Close



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# Group Agreements

- 1) **Be Present** - Try to have cameras on, listen actively and turn off other devices and apps during the meeting
- 2) **Equity in Participation**
  - *Please mute while others are speaking*
  - *Raise your hand to be in the speaking stack (\*9 on the phone)*
  - *Be ready to unmute (\*6 to mute and unmute on the phone)*
  - *If you have spoken allow space for others to speak before you. Facilitators will call on others in the stack if you have spoken so we can hear everyone's comments and voice*
- 3) **Practice Grace and Openness** - We are all here with good intentions and want to improve people's lives, let's give each other a chance
- 4) **Take Care of Your Bodies** - Get up to stretch, use restroom, hydrate, etc.
- 5) **Use Human-First Language**
- 6) **Respect Everyone's Pronouns**



# Zoom Instructions to Support Participation



## RENAME

Name you want to be called, Gender Pronouns & Organization (if affiliated)

**\*optional\***



## USE THE CHAT

- To connect
- To respond
- To ask questions



## RAISE YOUR HAND

You can “Raise your hand” by looking under the **“Reactions”** Icon

OR

Type **“STACK”** in the chat to get in the speaking order



## FOR THE PHONE

- \*6 - Mute/Unmute
- \*9 - Raise Hand

# Interpretation in Spanish at this Meeting

- ❖ Please speak *more slowly* for Interpretation
- ❖ If you are receiving Spanish Interpretation, please put a “ \* ” (star) before your Name by **RENAMING** for Breakout Groups  
*Sample: \* - Liz Sunwoo (she/her)*
- ❖ Spanish Interpretation in Main Room only so **Spanish language Breakout Group** will be in **Main Room**
- ❖ Hable *más despacio* para los que están interpretando
- ❖ Si está recibiendo interpretación en español, coloque una “ \* ” (estrella) antes de su nombre CAMBIANDO EL NOMBRE para ayudar a facilitar la creación de los Grupos de trabajo
- ❖ *Por ejemplo: \* - Liz Sunwoo (ella)*
- ❖ Interpretación estará disponible en español solo en la sala principal, **por lo que el grupo de trabajo en español será en la sala principal**



# Presentations





**Presenter 1:**

**Deanna Van Buren  
&  
Ramy Kim**

**Designing Justice Designing Spaces (DJDS)**








## **Presenter 2:**

**Lola Smallwood-Cuevas, UCLA Labor Center &  
National Black Worker Center  
&  
Devon Miner, National Skills Coalition**







# **Bio & Stretch Break**



# Orientation to Subcommittees





# Focus of this Subcommittee: Economic Opportunities & Sustainability



# About the Subcommittee

## Each Subcommittee will have 2 Co-Chairs

- One Co-Chair is a member of the Measure J Advisory Committee
- One Co-Chair was elected from the Subcommittee at Meeting #1

## Members of the Subcommittee

- Anyone who attends the meetings is considered a member of the subcommittee

## What does the Subcommittee Do?

- Brown Act governed body of the Advisory Committee
- Responsible for making Measure J Spending Allocation Recommendations to the Advisory Committee
- Responsible for Identifying Programs and Services that can be funded by Measure J that will support communities and people impacted by systemic racism





# Over the next 4 weeks, the Subcommittee will..

- **Build upon** the work of the **ATI** (Alternatives to Incarceration) process.
- **Learn together** and **identify the disparities that exist for the most impacted groups** related to this subcommittee's focus area.
- **Identify the programs and services that are most needed to eliminate barriers and disparities** by developing Measure Funding Recommendations.
- Discuss and prioritize which Funding Recommendations you will send to the Measure J Advisory Committee.

# Upcoming Meeting Dates for the Economic Opportunities & Sustainability Subcommittee

- ❑ March 1, 4:00pm - 6:30pm
- ❑ March 8, 4:00pm - 6:30pm
- ❑ March 15, 4:00pm - 6:30pm



# Summary of Ideas & Feedback from Meeting #1





# Priority Populations Identified at Meeting #1

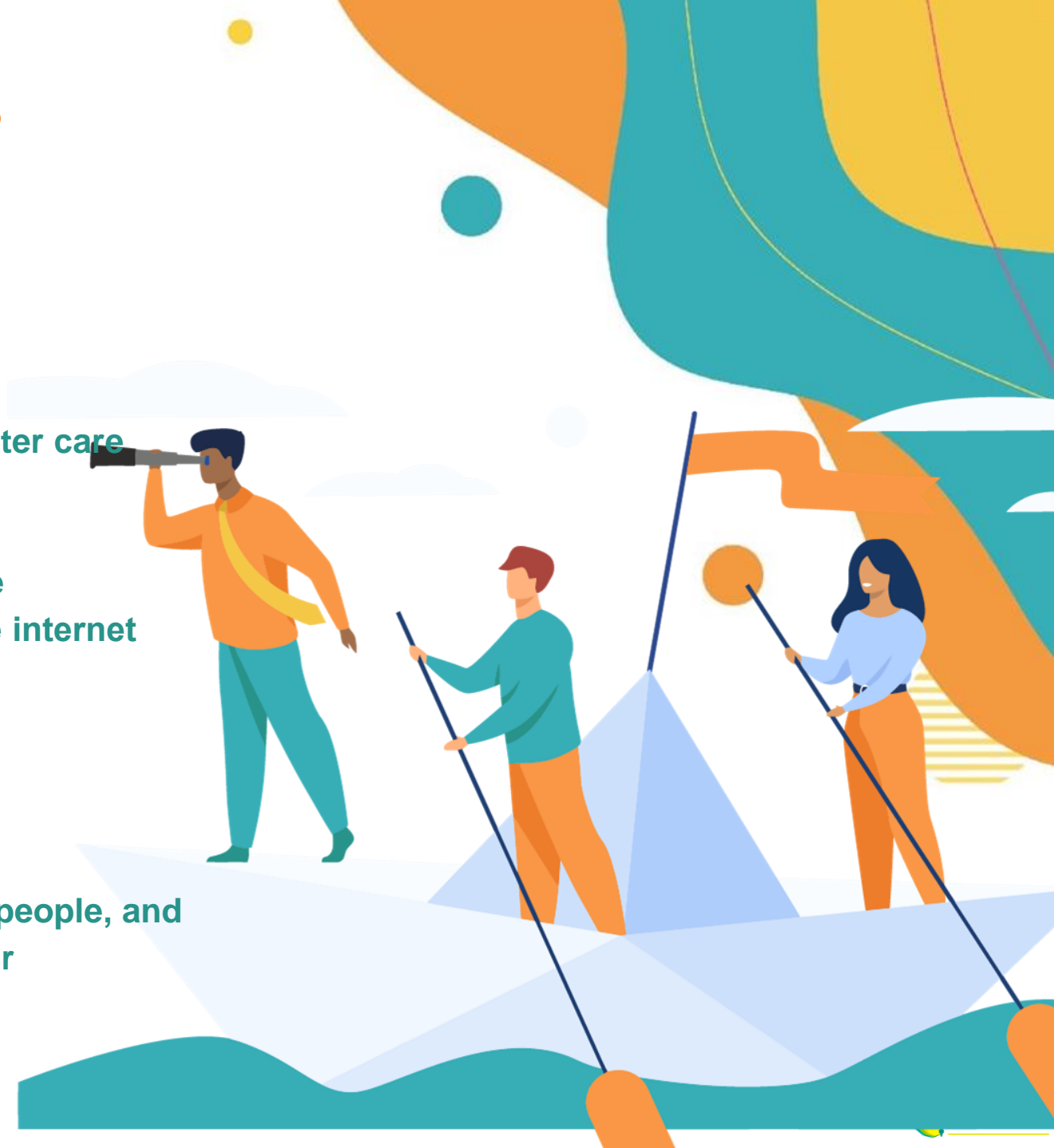
**Data Source:** Meeting #1 Jamboard

- **Black People**
  - Black Small Business Owners, Black Women who are Houseless
- **BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) Communities**
- **Youth**
- **People Who Have Been Incarcerated, including with DUI records**
- **People with Disabilities**
- **Substance Abuse Disorder Workforce**
- **Latinx**
- **Native American**
- **Immigrants**
- **Older Workers**
- **Neighborhoods with Racial Inequities, as outlined by the JENI (justice equity needs index)**
- **Transgender/Gender Nonconforming & LGBTQI+**



# Priority Populations: Additions

- Black communities impacted by violence
- Youth exiting detention and carceral facilities
- Women
- Gang members (active & former)
- Survivors of domestic violence
- Foster Youth, including those transitioning out of foster care
- Black women
- Two-Spirit
- Youth of color caught in the school to prison pipeline
- People who don't have equitable access to use of the internet and computers
- Undocumented folks, informal workers
- People with mental health disabilities
- People experiencing substance use challenges
- People who are chronically homeless
- Black people with an emphasis on the women, trans people, and those with other intersecting minority positions in our community
- Gang impacted communities



# Barriers Identified in Meeting #1:

- Employer bias against people with justice involvement
- Criminal records, including DUIs
- Limited capital access and financial education/mentorship
- Many requirements to obtain contracts with the County
- Lack of equity in how County contracts are distributed
- Lack of a comprehensive social/wellness safety net
- People struggling for housing, food, and medical assistance once released from jails, prisons, and detention centers
- Immigration laws
- Traditional corporate business models do not offer fair access to ownership/value and do not help workers build wealth despite their efforts





# Barriers: Additions

- Racism
- Lack of jobs in the creative economy
- Lack of access, training, and peer counseling for youth



# Themes around Economic Opportunities & Sustainability from Meeting #1

## Small Business Development & Supporting Black-owned Businesses

- Small business development funding especially to Black-owned business and those who can employ systems-impacted workers
- Creation of a flexible-financing fund to help entrepreneurs of color access loans and other financial services
- Cash grants and loans to help keystone black businesses weather the pandemic
- Support business financial education to Black businesses and organizations
- Pathway for 2nd Generation Black Business owners to take over their family businesses

## Workforce Development, Livable Career Pathways & Employment

- **ATI Rec:** Expand supported employment opportunities for persons with mental health, substance use, or co-occurring disorders, including flexible funds for basic client needs to find employment (e.g., birth certificates, etc.)
- Jobs and Pathways to Green Economy
- Job Training for those who are Houseless, especially Black Women
- Youth Skills Training leading to High Quality Jobs
- Job Training for Black workers with a “Multi-Prong Approach” where health services, housing support, etc. are included
- Focused Job Training & Employment for people with criminal records
- Pathways to union jobs where people can be organized
- Equity in pay for Community Intervention workers

# Themes around Economic Opportunities & Sustainability from Meeting #1

## Workforce Development, Livable Career Pathways & Employment (Continued)

- Access to scholarships, grants, etc. for higher education for community members to “upgrade” in their careers especially for older folks
- **ATI Rec:** Increase employment and retention of Community Health Workers (CHWs) to expand service capacity, cultural competency, and client/provider trust
- **ATI Rec:** Provide paid training and employment to increase the number of justice system-impacted individuals working as the technologists behind data collection and analysis.
- Inclusion of Undocumented workers into the Workforce Development System and strengthening their ability to get employment
- Focus and understanding of the percentage of the population that is engaged in on-demand/GIG work and ability (or not) to access benefits
- More well-paying sustainable jobs in transportation, health, schools, hospitals, housing - not jobs which increase violence in communities like prosecutors or police.
- Address employer bias and legal restrictions that prevent people with justice involvement from accessing high quality jobs
- High Road Employment Opportunities
- Subsidize employers to support coaching, recidivism and prevention to workers
- Financial Literacy focused on BIPOC Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming workers



# Themes around Economic Opportunities & Sustainability from Meeting #1

## Policies that Remove Barriers for Systems-involved Workers

- **ATI Rec:** Remove barriers to treatment, employment, and affordable housing, including recovery housing, based on stigmatization and discrimination due to record of past convictions through local and state legislative intervention or updating County policies.
- Clearing Convictions to support Job Placement
- Reimagine Employer Anti-Drug Policies

## Information & Data Changes that are Needed

- **ATI Rec:** Utilize data-driven tools to create processes for equitable resource and contract distribution with program offices across health and social service departments.
- **ATI Rec:** Expand and coordinate data tracking/collection across all relevant County justice and health/social service entities to retrieve data necessary for services, programming, preventative measures, and alternatives to incarceration.

# Themes around Economic Opportunities & Sustainability from Meeting #1

## Models to be Explored or Created

- **ATI Rec:** Utilize County capacity-building programs, in conjunction with equity analysis, to expand the community-based system of care by: (a) finding and supporting smaller organizations in different Service Planning Areas to qualify for and access funds while providing seed funding (i.e. philanthropic partnerships, business loans, flexible government funding, pay for success models, and/or zone area investments, etc.); (b) promoting existing providers as potential incubators; and (c) supporting training and technical assistance to become service providers.
- Generating Wealth and Stable Jobs for Marginalized Communities through Co-Ops and CBO partnerships especially for Black, Trans & other BIPOC communities

## Fund Community Involvement

- **ATI Rec:** Increase, ensure, and fund public collaboration in all phases of Alternatives to Incarceration planning, implementation, evaluation, and system oversight and across relevant County, Court, justice, health and social service systems.



# Themes beyond Measure J Funds or this Subcommittee from Meeting #1



## Making County Contracting Easier for CBOs

- Support organizations to meet insurance requirements of the County and/or decrease the level of insurance that the County requires
- Ensure Equitable Distribution of Opportunity and County Resources through equitable Contracting and Procurement
- Utilize County contracting mechanisms that allow for funding to be awarded to trusted community based organization(s) to perform fiscal intermediary services (i.e. solicitation processes, selection processes, program management, etc.)

## Models to be Explored or Created

- Provide pathway for workers in law enforcement, sheriff's office, probation, prison guards, etc. to transition to other jobs or retire

## Federal or State Advocacy

- Clearing Convictions so people can access housing, loans, etc.
- Universal Wage, Living Wage or Social Wage

# Setting Direction for the Measure J Funding





# Breakout Group #1

## PROMPT

- **What are programs/initiatives your break out group thinks we should prioritize for funding for 2021?**  
*(under the guidance of Measure J and ATI Recommendations)*
- **What doesn't need funding but we would recommend (policies, administrative practices, advocacy, etc.) that makes sense within this Measure J context?**



# Public Comment



# Next Steps for this Subcommittee



# Next Steps

- ❑ Every Monday at 4pm-6:30pm for 3 more weeks: 3/1, 3/8, 3/15
- ❑ You can send feedback and requests for the Economic Opportunities and Sustainability Subcommittee to [ati@lacounty.gov](mailto:ati@lacounty.gov)





# CLOSE MEETING

